

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment places the draft Amendment, sent by facsimile to the Examiner on July 5, 2005, in proper form for filing. A telephonic interview was conducted with the Examiner on July 12, 2005 based on that draft Amendment.

In the telephonic interview, the Examiner stated that the draft Amendment defined around Kosak, U.S. Patent No. 6,565,159, and that she would update her search upon receipt of a filed version of the draft Amendment.

Fig. 2 is proposed to be amended to add reference numeral 1 thereto to conform to page 4, line 6, of the specification. Fig. 3 is proposed to be amended to change reference numeral 8 to 8a, conforming to page 4, line 19, of the specification. A replacement sheet of drawings, showing Figs. 2 and 3, as proposed to be amended, is enclosed.

Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Kosak, U.S. Patent No. 6,565,159. Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

New independent claim 7 has been added, and independent claim 1 has been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 2-6 have been amended so that they are directly or indirectly dependent upon independent claim 7. New independent claim 7 provides, in part, for:

A connection between a wheel bearing and a wheel carrier comprising:

connecting elements only connecting the wheel carrier and a fixed part of the wheel bearing; ...

⋮

the fixed part of the wheel bearing structured to couple to a brake caliper.

Thus, in claim 7, “only the wheel carrier and a fixed part of the wheel bearing,” (emphasis supplied), are connected by the connecting elements. In contrast, shoulder 33 in Kosak, (column 2, lines 65-66), which the Examiner equates to the connecting elements in former claim 1, (Office Action, page 3, paragraph 4, lines 5-6), is included in a spindle 30, (column 2, lines 56-57; Fig. 3). Spindle 13, shown as a part of a suspension system, (Fig. 1), is supported by wheel carrier 12 and “wheel hub 14 is mounted to spindle 13 by means of a grease seal 15, bearings 16 and 17, an adjusting nut 18, a nut retainer 19, a cotter pin 20, and a grease cap 21,” (column 2, lines 26-29).

In addition, in Kosak any brake caliper is coupled by bosses on the wheel carrier, according to the Examiner, (Office Action, page 3, paragraph 4, lines 18-20). In contrast, claim 7 provides that the fixed part of the wheel bearing is structured to couple to the brake caliper.

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claim 7 is allowable over Kosak. Furthermore, since claims 2-6 ultimately depend from claim 7, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are allowable over Kosak for at least the same reasons. Therefore, the allowance of claims 2-7 is respectfully requested.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on July 12, 2005:

Max Moskowitz

Name of applicant, assignee or
Registered Representative

Signature

July 12, 2005

Date of Signature

RCF/MIM:lac

Respectfully submitted,

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AMENDMENT TO THE DRAWING(S)

Please find enclosed a replacement drawing sheet showing proposed amendments to Figs. 2 and 3 for the approval of the Examiner.